1. Varying Sentence Openers

Teacher draws students’ attention to some of the different sentence openers used in texts being read in class, discussing why the sentence might be important to be structured this way.

***Ways to Start Example***

**“When” starter** In 65 BC Julius Caesar . . .

During these years of conquest . . .

After increasing hostility . . .

When these plates finally move . . .

At 10.27 am on 28th December, 1989,

Two decades later . . .

About one week after the (Newcastle) earthquake . .

During puberty and adolescence . . .

After the egg is released . . .

When the Europeans arrived . . .

After graduating from university, . . .

**“How” starter** As a result of heat and pressure . . .

Actively involved in student politics, . . .

Seriously committed to achieving her goals, . . .

Unusually for Murphy, he plays the straight man.

Carefully open the oven door . .

**“Where” starter**  Within the Vatican is the Sistine Chapel . . .

Located beneath the surface is . . .

The left and right hand side faces . . .

**Name starter** Rome is the capital city of Italy.

The San Andreas fault zone . . .

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Hindu-Arabic symbols are used in Australia today.

Adolf Hitler began his rise to power . . .

**Simile or metaphor**  Like an eel . . .

**or figure of speech** Australia’s ‘Dead Heart’ . . .

Hugging the coastline . . .

Like lambs to the slaughter, . . .

**Adjective starter**  Most buildings were made from stone . . .

Surface features that have been broken . . .

Frantic efforts were made to . . .

Older buildings suffered the most.

Temporary shopping passes were issued . . .

Solid shapes are also called . .

Excessive irrigation causes . . .

Beautiful illustrations perfectly capture . . .

**“-ed” clause**  Feared and respected at the same time . . .

Plotted on this map are the epicentres . . .

Armed with this information, home owners can make informed choices.

Shaped like a diamond . . .

Described as being ‘the best leg-spinner’ . . .

Christened Alicia Christian . . .

Educated at her local public school . . .

Sub-titled *A tale of greed and adventure in two acts,* . . .

**“-ing” clause**  Resting at Antioch . . .

According to the Regional Manager for Public Works in Newcastle . . .

Following the arrival of the railways in the 1870s and 1880s . . .

Ranging in size from large to microscopic . .

Upcoming film projects include . . .

Returning to Australia later that year, . . .

Assuming it to be homeless, . . .

**One-worder** However, when the city was destroyed . . .

Rather, it stores up to 35 millimetres of slip . . .

Besides, maybe one day she would . .

Today, many antibiotics . . . .

Nevertheless, the world’s leading spin bowler . . .

Furthermore, the use of a ‘ripping’ effect . . .

**Technical word/word group starter** Bacterial regrowth is . . .

Dehydration is common . . .

Lithospheric plates come together . . .

Equilateral triangles . . .

Transform fault zones are . . .

2. Varying Sentence Structure

Teacher draws students’ attention to types of sentences and their effect or purpose.

***Type of sentence***

**Short, simple sentence for stating a simple fact, a step, a consequence, or for simplicity, drama or impact.**

The movement can result in earthquakes.

Twenty-three of them remain vacant today.

The crust is the outermost layer of the earth.

Perfect school holiday fare.

Hitler particularly persecuted Jews.

She outlasted them all.

Record your observations.

The cube has twelve edges.

The process is called ovulation.

Mulch improves soil quality.

**Compound sentence (joined with connective) for flow**

Salt is soluble and pepper is insoluble.

Rinse the eggs in water and handle them with care.

He turned Germany into a powerful war machine and provoked World War 2.

This solid does not roll nut it can be stacked easily.

Once a month one egg matures and is released.

**Complex sentence to add extra information.**

Hitler’s forces conquered most of Europe before they were defeated in 1945.

Solid shapes are also called three-dimensional shapes because they have three dimensions.

A pyramid is not seen often in everyday life, unless you live in Egypt !

The reproductive system begins at a time called puberty which occurs during the adolescent years.

The clouds become colder causing condensation.

**Questions to draw in reader**

What was that?

Do you believe in ghosts ?

What is that brown lump sticking to your shoe ?

Have you got superhuman reflexes ?

How could they possibly raise a family ?

Have you ever heard of playing the bones ?

How does the brain deal with simultaneous tasks ?

What is World Heritage ?

**Exclamations for impact**

Their music is great !

Run for it!

It was all because of his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather!

Wurradi wakes one morning and finds his little dog Wondee is missing !

Instant percussion !

The reason that you don’t see us on bikes is there is nowhere for us to lock them up !

Breakthrough !

A pyramid is not seen often in everyday life, unless you live in Egypt !

**Sentence of 3 for description**

The three main shells, the crust, the mantleand the core, have been

recognised for some time.

The three dimensions are length, width and depth.

He wore a dark cloak, shiny shoes and red trousers.

It’s a great international, multicultural, outback youth success story.

Ears, eyes and nostrils are swamped.

Sauropods spent most of their time in rivers, lakes and swamps.

It carries dissolved substances such as simple foods, vitamins and minerals around the body.

**Sentence of 3 for action**

Foster sees herself acting, directing and producing for many more years.

Tom ran across the beach, jumped over the rock and collapsed.

I fed the fire, put a lid on the soup and stirred the beans in the pot.

He leapt out off a rock and hit the surging water with his arms already paddling.

He lay back worried and thoughtful, looking at the sky, smelling the stinky water and hearing the reeds scrape by the tin canoe.

He fought to the surface again, screaming with panic, dragging up through the spirals and clouds in the water.

**Sentence of 3 for persuasion or emphasis**

His strength of will, and his ability to lie, cheat and flatter helped him to win power.

Cooking is a valuable skill because it teaches discipline, encourages abiding by rules and brings joy to others.

Learning to cook is important for survival, independence and nutrition.

These people have all been brainwashed, kept in the shadow of truth, led to believe that convenience foods really are more convenient.

Let’s just say I consider 3D physically dangerous, economically predatory and imaginatively stunting.